THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. There has been increase in production of both fruits and vegetables in recent years as per following details:

(Quantity : Million Tonnes)

Commodity	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09 (3rd Advance)
Fruits	59.56	65.60	69.45
Vegetable	115.01	129.26	133.07

Source : National Horticulture Board (NHB)

Fruits and vegetables are utilized for table consumption, processing into value added products, exports etc.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. Agriculture and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) in the Ministry of Commerce has been promoting export of fruits through several measures such as infrastructure development; setting up of Agri Export Zones; opening up new markets for export; participation in international trade fairs and providing financial assistance to exporters for several activities. Other steps include integrated training programmes for quality and productivity of selected fruits and setting up pilot facilities for disinfestations etc. to meet specific quarantine requirements of importing countries.

The details of export of fruits and vegetables during the last three years is as below:

(Quantity-in Metric Tonnes and Value - Rs. in lakh)

Year	Fruits		Vegetable	
2006-07	347660	871.88	1655198	159645
2007-08	365733	91185	1358841	152527
2008-09	NA	245374	NA	194531

Source: Directorate General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics (DGCIS)

Performance of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana

1695. SHRI R.C. SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the details of steps taken by Government for better performance in agriculture and allied sectors, particularly with reference to West Bengal in the last three years and how those steps reflected in the higher production of foodgrains and oil seeds in the country;

(b) whether Government has assessed the performance of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (PROF. K.V. THOMAS): (a) Eleventh Plan has fixed target of 4% growth in agriculture and allied sector. Government has launched major schemes like Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), National Food Security Mission (NFSM), National Horticulture Mission (NHM) for contributing to the achievement of this target. Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) was launched during the year 2007-08 to encourage the States to invest more in the Agriculture and allied sectors to contribute to the objective of 4% annual growth in this sector during the Eleventh Five Year Plan period. It has an envisaged outlay of Rs.25,000 crore for the Plan period. Government of India has released funds under RKVY to the State Government of West Bengal during 2007-08 and 2008-09 as under:-

Year	Amount released (Rs. in crores)
2007-08	54.93
2008-09	147.38

Projects taken up by the State Government of West Bengal to be funded from RKVY funds which will contribute towards higher production of food grains and oilseeds:

(Rs. in lakh)

Component	2007-08	2008-09
Crops	200.00	60.30
Horticulture	675.795	1155.03
Seed farm	903.774	1102.03
Soil testing lab	205.10	452.03
Seed Testing Lab.	—	285.00
IPM	—	70.80
Agri mechanization	496.10	583.03
Extension	120.40	376.68
NRM	564.25	810.72
Micro/Minor Irrigation	—	734.29
TOTAL	3165.419	5630.76

(b) and (c) Government assesses physical and financial performance of RKVY from time to time. However as RKVY was launched only in August, 2007, no external evaluation of the Scheme has been taken up so far.

Loss of crop yield due to pest attacks

1696. DR. RAM PRAKASH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state: